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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/995,486	11/28/2001	Enrique Molina	408-001	1468

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EXAMINER

VARNER, STEVE M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3635

DATE MAILED: 04/26/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/995,486	Applicant(s) MOLINA, ENRIQUE	
	Examiner Steve M Varner	Art Unit 3635	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-47 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 2 and 9-47 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim 2 is cancelled.

Claims 9-47 are withdrawn as non-elected restricted claims

Claim Objections

"Sufficiently" is unclear in Claim 3, Line 2.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 3-8, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wepf.

Regarding claim 1, Wepf shows wall molding means (10, 12, 14), including panel holding means (10). Wepf shows a cavity (between 12, 14) having an upwardly directed top opening (Fig. 1). Wepf shows reinforcement rod suspending means (22) (Col. 5, Line 20-40) including a plurality of grid elements (vertical components of 16, 18) that extend vertically along the vertically disposed molding surfaces with each element having rod locating means in the form of ties (Fig. 2). "The grid may be positioned and tied in place by tying the horizontal rods to the vertical rods as required" (Col. 5, Line 40-50). Wepf shows freely disposed reinforcement rod means (horizontal members of 16, 18) at a plurality of preselected vertical locations and at a preselected horizontal location spaced inwardly from each of the opposed molding surface within the mold cavity, and means for attaching (36, 32, 44, 28, 24, 30, 42, 26) the rod suspending

Art Unit: 3635

means (22) to the opposed wall forming panels, the rod suspending means being effective to retain the reinforcement rod means (Fig. 1).

Regarding claim 3, Wepf shows each grid element is sufficiently rigid.

Regarding claim 4, Wepf shows panels that are portable and panel holding means (10) (Fig. 1).

Regarding claim 5, Wepf shows the plurality of vertically disposed grid elements (vertical components of 16, 18) are spaced horizontally with respect to each other along the opposed spaced molding surfaces, the reinforcement rod means (horizontal components of 16, 18) includes a plurality of rod elements being horizontally disposed across the plurality of grid element, and the rod elements extend substantially parallel to the molding surfaces and are laterally spaced with respect to each other between the molding surfaces (Fig. 1).

Regarding claim 6, Wepf shows wall molding means (10, 12, 14) including holding means (10), with the cavity (between 12, 14) having an upwardly directed top opening, reinforcement rod suspending means (22) and means for attaching (24, 30, 42, 26, 36, 32, 28, 44)) the rod suspending means to the opposed wall forming panels, the rod suspending means (22) being effective to retain the reinforcement rod means (horizontal component of 16, 18), the rod suspending means including a plurality of grid elements (vertical components of 16, 18) that extend vertically along the vertically disposed molding surfaces and between the opposed molding surfaces and each grid element including a plurality of tie members horizontally disposed at spaced preselected vertical locations. "The grid may be positioned and tied in place by tying the horizontal

rods to the vertical rods as required” (Col. 5, Line 40-50). These ties are placed at the same horizontal level on the vertical components of 16, 18 (Fig. 1). The grid elements include rod locating means (vertical components of 16, 18) (Col. 5, Line 40-50).

Regarding claim 7, Wepf shows the rod locating means (vertical components of 16, 18) (Col. 5, Line 40-50) includes a pair of elongated parallel grid members (vertical components of 16, 18) extending across the plurality of vertically spaced tie members (Col. 5, Line 40-50) at each horizontal location between the molding surfaces (12, 14) (Fig. 1).

Regarding claim 8, Wepf shows wall molding means (10, 12, 14) including panel holding means (10) with the cavity (between 12, 14) having an upwardly directed top opening, reinforcement rod suspending means (22) and means for attaching (34, 30, 42, 26, 36, 32, 44, 28) the rod suspending means to the opposed wall, rod suspending means being effective to retain reinforcement rod means, the reinforcement rod means including at least two elongate rods (horizontal component of 16, 18) each freely positioned horizontally at a spaced inward distance from the opposed molding surfaces and at a spaced outward distance from a centerline located between the opposed molding surfaces (Fig. 1).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 3-8, have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Wilde shows a tie for concrete wall forms. Takemura shows ready mixed concrete placing method and formwork unit used for the method. Barale shows shuttering system for casting concrete walls or partitions, and a method for its assembly.


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steve M Varner whose telephone number is 703 308-1894. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Carl D Friedman can be reached on 703 308-0839. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


SV


Carl D. Friedman
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 3600